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ABSTRACT

The book is intended as a practical guide for English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) teachers with mixed-level classes. It begins with a discussion of multilevel classes, factors to consider in deciding how to teach them, reasons for their existence, and their problems and advantages. It then addresses curriculum planning, using a sample class for illustration, and issues in assessment of student needs, student progress, and instructional effectiveness. A chapter on classroom management looks at techniques for developing group identity, ability grouping, and teaching small groups. A chapter outlining whole-class activities offers ideas and techniques for start-up exercises, tasks performed at different levels, and activities that incorporate a variety of tasks. Three kinds of within-class grouping are then discussed: ability-level; cross-level; and jigsaw, in which students are initially ability-grouped and given information unknown to the rest of the class, then rearranged into mixed-level groups, in which there is one student from each ability level, for a specific task. Similarly, a chapter is devoted to pair work, both ability-grouped and cross-ability. Ideas for setting up a self-access resource center are outlined, and a sample lesson sequence is presented. The final chapter lists additional resources. (MSE) (Adjunct ERIC Clearinghouse on Literacy Education)

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